Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient having an immunologic disorder, comprising:

(a) administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a BAFF (B cell activating factor belonging to the TNF family) antagonist~~ an antibody that binds to SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:7, or SEQ ID NO:8 at least once or at one or more intervals of less than *N* weeks~~, wherein the BAFF antagonist is selected from the group consisting of an anti-BAFF receptor antibody and a soluble BAFF receptor~~;

(b) temporarily discontinuing the administration of step (a) for *N* weeks or longer; and

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) at least once;

wherein *N* is 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the administration of step (a) comprises an interval of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 weeks.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~BAFF antagonist~~ antibody is administered in step (a) 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 times a week.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the administration is discontinued in step (b) for 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 42, 48 weeks or longer.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at the beginning of the treatment the patient has one or more of:

(i) proteinuria of 1 g per a 24-hour period or higher;

(ii) serum creatinine levels of about 1 mg/dl or higher;

(iii) creatinine clearance levels of 97 ml/min or lower;

(iv) blood urea of 20 mg/dl or higher;

(v) abnormal titer of autoantibodies in the serum; and

(vi) peripheral blood B cell count of 700 cells/μl.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the patient is human.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the ~~BAFF antagonist~~ antibody is sufficient to inhibit autoantibody titer.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the ~~BAFF antagonist~~ antibody is sufficient to reduce B cell hyperplasia.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the ~~BAFF antagonist~~ antibody is sufficient to reduce cardiac inflammation.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the ~~BAFF antagonist~~ antibody is sufficient to improve renal function.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the renal function is one or more of: pressure filtration, selective reabsorption, tubular secretion, and systemic blood pressure regulation.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the ~~BAFF antagonist~~ antibody is sufficient to reduce progression of renal fibrosis.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the ~~BAFF antagonist~~ antibody is sufficient to reduce lymphocyte infiltration in the kidneys.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the ~~BAFF antagonist~~ antibody is sufficient to reduce lymphadenopathy.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunologic disorder is an autoimmune disorder.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the autoimmune disorder is systemic lupus erythematosus.

17 - 29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient having an autoimmune disorder, comprising:

(a) administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a BAFF-specific antagonist~~ an antibody that binds to SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:7, or SEQ ID NO:8 at least once or at one or more intervals of less than *N* weeks~~, wherein the BAFF antagonist is selected from the group consisting of an anti-BAFF receptor antibody and a soluble BAFF receptor~~;

(b) temporarily discontinuing the administration of step (a) for *N* weeks or longer; and

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) at least once;

thereby treating the autoimmune disorder, and wherein *N* is 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing autoantibody titer in a patient, comprising:

(a) administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a BAFF-specific antagonist~~ an antibody that binds to SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:7, or SEQ ID NO:8 at least once or at one or more intervals of less than *N* weeks~~, wherein the BAFF antagonist is selected from the group consisting of an anti-BAFF receptor antibody and a soluble BAFF receptor~~;

(b) temporarily discontinuing the administration of step (a) for *N* weeks or longer; and

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) at least once;

thereby reducing autoantibody titer, and wherein *N* is 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.

32. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting generation of pathogenic B cells in a patient, comprising:

(a) administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a BAFF-specific antagonist~~ an antibody that binds to SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:7, or SEQ ID NO:8 at least once or at one or more intervals of less than *N* weeks~~, wherein the BAFF antagonist is selected from the group consisting of an anti-BAFF receptor antibody and a soluble BAFF receptor~~;

(b) temporarily discontinuing the administration of step (a) for *N* weeks or longer; and

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) at least once;

thereby inhibiting generation of pathogenic B cells, and wherein *N* is 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the pathogenic B cells are $IgM^{-}IgD^{+}$.

34 - 70. (Cancelled)